

THE LIBERATOR

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The Agents of the American, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Michigan Anti-Slavery Societies are authorized to receive subscriptions for THE LIBERATOR.

The following gentlemen constitute the Financial Committee, but are not responsible for any debts of the paper, viz.—WENDELL PHILLIPS, EDMUND QUINCY, EDWARD JACKSON, and WILLIAM L. GARRISON, Jr.

WM. LLOYD GARRISON, Editor.

VOL. XXXIII. NO. 6.

BOSTON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1863.

WHOLE NO. 1670.

Refuge of Oppression.

WENDELL PHILLIPS.

Mr. Wendell Phillips in the character of a commentator upon the Constitution can only be likened to Rabelais editing the "Confessions of St. Augustine," or to Theodore Hook lecturing upon Baxter's "Saints."

An American citizen, Mr. Phillips admits him to be less than two years old. During his whole period of life, he was just as much a foreigner in America, as he had been a fugitive and called pig-eon English. To confound Mr. Phillips and the dismal horde of vulgar Abolitionists who take to an slavery just as Stiggins in the "PICKWICK PAPERS" did to a harlot, total abstinence and tea is to him both more and less than justice. He is both less offensive and less acceptable than the peripatetic twaddlers with whom he has allied himself for years. Born of a good family and gently bred, according to the measure of the citizens of Boston, Mr. Phillips, at the very outset of his career, revolted from the platitudes of Beacon street, and the cheap conservatism of Cambridge. There are men who instinctively take to the minority, from a passionate scorn of common-place men whom applause provokes and whose impulse is to ask, with the Greek orator, when they find the multitude moving with them, "What nonsense have I uttered that these people agree with me?" Wendell Phillips is one of these men. Had he been penniless in the world, he would still have despised the dull routine of decorous respectability for the exhilarating eccentricities of an aggressive independence. But he had fortune enough to take the field on horseback, and his career has been one long tilt of philanthropic knight-errantry. Had the cause he espoused continued to be the persecuted creed of a knot of fanatics, but not a contemptuous man, a quixotic and amusing critic of all things American, but not an Estrofia of the National Temple?

Unfortunately for him, however, he now finds the doctrines which he loved, mainly because other people hated them, suddenly adopted into the policy of an national administration. From the sweet habit of blaspheming all manner of Presidents and proclamations, he is suddenly converted into a *cavaliere d'zel*, inditing dissent responses, and drawing out acquiescent amens. The position fit for neither his genius nor his habits, and his oration last night, delivered in this city, proves that the Bayard of the ex-commissioned Abolitionists has dolorously declined into a mere Dugald Dalgety of the gun-contracting Ge-

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the testimony, he has the means of coming at a more correct conclusion than the gentlemen who sat on the trial?

Because Gen. Porter is a Democrat, and a friend of Gen. McClellan, must he necessarily be innocent of the charges preferred against him? Cannot a Democrat sometimes do a wrong act? We must admit that each specific charge was fully and undeniably proved—*or we must charge the men who so decided, after hearing the testimony, with perjury and gross violation of all the obligations growing out of the relation they held to an officer, who had earned laurels in years past by his sword.* Such men as composed that court—men who had been associated with Gen. Porter as politicians and soldiers, holding in their hands his military character, valued more by a soldier than his life—would not have rendered a verdict that was to bring lasting disgrace upon him, unless the clearest, the sternest, the most unrelenting sense of duty and regard for their oaths and their country had demanded it at their hands.

It is equally the duty of all loyal citizens to acquiesce in the judgment of that court. Better far that one man suffer, brave and skilful though he may have been as an officer, than that the commands of superior officers should be disregarded in time of war, and the laws of the country be set at defiance. —*American Sentinel.*

HOW CHARLES FRANCOIS ADAMS AND THE LONDON EMANCIPATION SOCIETY.

The Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Anti Slavery Society was held at the Music Hall in Boston, on Thursday, Jan. 29th, 1863.

EDMUND QUINCY, President, called the meeting to order at 10 o'clock.

Rev. Wm. G. BARBOCK, of Seilgate, offered prayer.

The Treasurer of the Society, **EDMUND JACKSON,** Esq., presented his Annual Report, duly certified by **Wm. L. BOWDITCH,** Esq., the Auditor. It showed receipts for the year of \$2288.91; expenditures, \$231.95. Balance in the treasury, \$6.96.

The Report was accepted.

SAMUEL MAY, JR., from the Committee of Arrangements, presented the following lists of Committees, &c.:—

Committee on Business—William Lloyd Garrison, Theodore D. Weld, Wendell Phillips, John H. Stephen, Parker Pillsbury, Charles L. Remond, Andrew T. Foss, Stephen S. Foster, Henry C. Wright, George W. Stacy, Wm. Wells Brown, Sarah J. Nowell, Elizabeth B. Chase.

Committee to Nominate Officers for the ensuing Year—Bourne Spooner, Plymouth; William Ashby, Newburyport; Samuel May, Jr., Leicester; Josiah Haywood, Salem; John Clement, Townsend; Samuel Dyer, Abington; Samuel Barrett, Concord; Jonathan Buffum, Lynn; Elias Richards, Weymouth; Alvan Howes, Barnstable; Mary Willey, Boston.

Assistant Secretaries—Samuel May, Jr.; Wendell P. Garrison.

After some amendments, by addition of names, the Committees and Secretaries above-named were unanimously elected.

Mr. May, in behalf of the Committee of Arrangements, made a statement with regard to the holding of this Annual Meeting but a single day.

Letters were read from A. M. POWELL, of Ghent, N. Y., and Hon. SAMUEL GALE, of Montreal; the latter having been addressed to Mrs. Child, in behalf of the Ladies' Subscription Anniversary.

ANDREW T. FOSSE, of Manchester, N. H., gave an interesting account of his recent lecturing tour in the State of Maine, and its encouraging results. He had found the pulpits and churches of different denominations very cordially opened to him, had spoken twice in the State House at Augusta to large audiences, receiving the public thanks of the same, and, best of all, had found nine-tenths of the people strongly in favor of the Emancipation policy of the President.

Mr. Adams replied in the following terms:—

Gentlemen—I receive this expression of the sentiments of so respectable a body with great pleasure and great satisfaction. I need not say how encouraging such manifestations will be to those persons of the United States, who have been driven into the necessity of maintaining such a painful struggle as has been carried on by them in America in devotion to the great principles of public law and public order. I am very much encouraged by the circumstance that there is growing here, and in Europe generally, a better conception than has heretofore prevailed of the principles involved in the question. (Hear.)

Mr. Jacob Bright said he concurred in what had already been said. In Lancashire, where they should find opposition to the continuance of the war, if they were to find it anywhere, the working classes were almost unanimously in favor of the North. He had seen the question tested in Rochdale and many other places, and in these places he had seen a strong, warm and earnest feeling in favor of emancipation displayed. (Applause.)

Mr. Adams replied in the following terms:—

Edwin Thompson, of Walpole, spoke earnestly and stirringly upon the prospects of the country, and of the Anti Slavery cause. He adduced many instances of conspicuous, as fully supporting the view he took of affairs.

Mr. GARRISON reported the following resolutions from the Business Committee:—

Whereas, (to quote the language of John Quincy Adams,) "military authority takes, for the time, the place of all municipal institutions, and slavery among the rest; that, under that state of things, so far from its being true that the States where slavery exists have the exclusive management of the subject, not only the President of the United States, but the Commander of the army, has power to order the universal emancipation of the slaves; and that from the instant that the slaveholding States become the theatre of a war, civil, servile or foreign, from that instant the war powers of Congress extend to interference with the institution of slavery, in every way in which can be interfered with"; and,

Whereas, the slaveholding section of the Union has for the last two years been in open rebellion against the Federal Government, and is still waging malignant and bloody war, under the leadership of an impious slave oligarchy, for the avowed purpose of crushing free institutions, and making slavery the corner-stone of an independent confederacy; therefore,

Resolved, That slavery being the source and sole cause of the rebellion, and the rebellion being for the sole purpose of perpetuating slavery, from the hour that hostile shot compelled the capitulation of Fort Sumter, it became not only the martial prerogative but the constitutional duty of the President to decree the total abolition of slavery in every slave State, in order to stop a frightful effusion of blood, prevent the needless sacrifice of an immense number of lives, bring the rebellion to a speedy termination, and thus place the unity of the republic upon an indisputable basis.

Resolved, That in delaying to strike an annihilating blow at slavery, and treating it as something too sacred even for the strong arm of military power to touch,—and in endeavoring to conciliate, and win back to their allegiance, the rebellious slave-traders of the South, by an assurance of the prompt enforcement of the old pro-slavery guarantees by the Federal Government,—the President and his Cabinet should disown, for the time being, to be given over to judicial blindness and perilous infatuation, and allowed the strength of the entire slave population to be actively and unceasingly wielded in support of the rebellion, and to the discomfiture of the Federal forces.

Resolved, That while deplored a procrastination so fraught with danger, suffering and guilt, we nevertheless, rejoice, "with joy unspeakable," that at last the President was constrained, on the first day of January, 1863, "as an act of justice," and as essential to the salvation of the country, to proclaim the emancipation of more than three millions of slaves, belonging to the traitors in arms; and we held the act as constituting a great historic era, carrying with it the approval and benediction of every true patriot, and giving a staggering blow to the rebellion; and, moreover but traitors, and those who are in sympathy with treason, will be arrayed against its enforcement.

I am extremely gratified in the assurances which have been given by several gentlemen with respect to the state of popular feeling in England on this subject. I have myself had occasion to notice the fact that, although some of the exponents of the public sentiment have appeared to be at times exceedingly harsh upon the United States, yet that when opportunity offered for an appeal to the people themselves, the sentiment has uniformly responded to the policy which the United States Government have enunciated. I am, therefore, encouraged to hope that the clouds which have hitherto gathered, and at times somewhat portentously, over the mutual relations of the two countries, have now more and more lost appearance of vanishing from the sky. I feel compelled that the expression of sympathy from hence, which I have been lately the medium of repeatedly communicating to my countrymen, will have the effect of clearing away many impressions that may have been received by reading the attacks of hostile journals, and taking them too much as the true expression of the sentiment of the people. I think, by understanding distinctly—which they will now have the opportunity of doing—that the policy of Great Britain is not retrograde on the subject of slavery, wherever it may yet exist, and that it is true to the former pledges it so nobly gave to the world of its devotion to the principles of human freedom—the growing conviction of that fact will have the effect in America of restoring those amicable relations and reviving those warm sentiments which ought to be entertained between the two kindred peoples at all times. Gentlemen, I shall no longer detain

you. I will just say that I shall have pleasure in communicating to my Government a knowledge of the sentiments which have been expressed here by you to day."

The Liberator.

No Union with Slaveholders!

BOSTON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1863.

NOTICE TO DELINQUENT SUBSCRIBERS.

The GENERAL AGENT of the *Liberator* begs leave to remind delinquent subscribers—i. e., such as are owing from January 1, 1862, to January 1, 1863—that, unless payment be made by the first of April, (which is granting a longer indulgence than usual,) their paper will be discontinued, in accordance with the STANDING RULE. It is hoped there will be no longer delay on their part in meeting their indebtedness, and no occasion furnished for curtailing the subscription list.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MASSACHUSETTS ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

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Mr. Adams replied in the following terms:—

Edwin Thompson, of Walpole, spoke earnestly and stirringly upon the prospects of the country, and of the Anti Slavery cause. He adduced many instances of conspicuous, as fully supporting the view he took of affairs.

Mr. GARRISON reported the following resolutions from the Business Committee:—

Whereas, (to quote the language of John Quincy Adams,) "military authority takes, for the time, the place of all municipal institutions, and slavery among the rest; that, under that state of things, so far from its being true that the States where slavery exists have the exclusive management of the subject, not only the President of the United States, but the Commander of the army, has power to order the universal emancipation of the slaves; and that from the instant that the slaveholding States become the theatre of a war, civil, servile or foreign, from that instant the war powers of Congress extend to interference with the institution of slavery, in every way in which can be interfered with"; and,

Whereas, the slaveholding section of the Union has for the last two years been in open rebellion against the Federal Government, and is still waging malignant and bloody war, under the leadership of an impious slave oligarchy, for the avowed purpose of crushing free institutions, and making slavery the corner-stone of an independent confederacy; therefore,

Resolved, That slavery being the source and sole cause of the rebellion, and the rebellion being for the sole purpose of perpetuating slavery, from the hour that hostile shot compelled the capitulation of Fort Sumter, it became not only the martial prerogative but the constitutional duty of the President to decree the total abolition of slavery in every slave State, in order to stop a frightful effusion of blood, prevent the needless sacrifice of an immense number of lives, bring the rebellion to a speedy termination, and thus place the unity of the republic upon an indisputable basis.

Resolved, That in delaying to strike an annihilating blow at slavery, and treating it as something too sacred even for the strong arm of military power to touch,—and in endeavoring to conciliate, and win back to their allegiance, the rebellious slave-traders of the South, by an assurance of the prompt enforcement of the old pro-slavery guarantees by the Federal Government,—the President and his Cabinet should disown, for the time being, to be given over to judicial blindness and perilous infatuation, and allowed the strength of the entire slave population to be actively and unceasingly wielded in support of the rebellion, and to the discomfiture of the Federal forces.

Resolved, That while deplored a procrastination so fraught with danger, suffering and guilt, we nevertheless, rejoice, "with joy unspeakable," that at last the President was constrained, on the first day of January, 1863, "as an act of justice," and as essential to the salvation of the country, to proclaim the emancipation of more than three millions of slaves, belonging to the traitors in arms; and we held the act as constituting a great historic era, carrying with it the approval and benediction of every true patriot, and giving a staggering blow to the rebellion; and, moreover but traitors, and those who are in sympathy with treason, will be arrayed against its enforcement.

I am extremely gratified in the assurances which have been given by several gentlemen with respect to the state of popular feeling in England on this subject. I have myself had occasion to notice the fact that, although some of the exponents of the public sentiment have appeared to be at times exceedingly harsh upon the United States, yet that when opportunity offered for an appeal to the people themselves, the sentiment has uniformly responded to the policy which the United States Government have enunciated. I am, therefore, encouraged to hope that the clouds which have hitherto gathered, and at times somewhat portentously, over the mutual relations of the two countries, have now more and more lost appearance of vanishing from the sky. I feel compelled that the expression of sympathy from hence, which I have been lately the medium of repeatedly communicating to my countrymen, will have the effect of clearing away many impressions that may have been received by reading the attacks of hostile journals, and taking them too much as the true expression of the sentiment of the people. I think, by understanding distinctly—which they will now have the opportunity of doing—that the policy of Great Britain is not retrograde on the subject of slavery, wherever it may yet exist, and that it is true to the former pledges it so nobly gave to the world of its devotion to the principles of human freedom—the growing conviction of that fact will have the effect in America of restoring those amicable relations and reviving those warm sentiments which ought to be entertained between the two kindred peoples at all times. Gentlemen, I shall no longer detain

you. I will just say that I shall have pleasure in communicating to my Government a knowledge of the sentiments which have been expressed here by you to day."

STEPHEN S. FOSTER, of Worcester, addressed the Society in regard to the proper position and existing duties of Abolitionists. Mr. F.'s speech was a strong and eloquent plea for a thorough union of the North, and of all anti-slavery men, upon the ground of absolute, unconditional emancipation in every portion of the country, and insisting that the officers of the Government, both civil and military, shall be men who will heartily sustain and enforce the most radical anti-slavery policy.

CHARLES L. REMOND, of Salem, thought that the anti-slavery people were far too much disposed to be satisfied with political arrangements which do not recognize and protect the colored man's equal rights in this country, as a man and citizen. At one moment we are called to rejoice for the Proclamation of Emancipation, and at another are told it is only a piece of parchment. At no time have the spite and hatred towards the colored man been more venomous than now.

MR. OSGOOD, of Salisbury, denounced the existing Democratic party of the country as false to every idea and principle for which the recognized fathers and leaders of Democracy had ever contended.

S. FOSTER, of Boston, thought that the Anti-Slavery Society had done its duty in remitting delinquent subscribers—i. e., such as are owing from January 1, 1862, to January 1, 1863—that, unless payment be made by the first of April, (which is granting a longer indulgence than usual,) their paper will be discontinued, in accordance with the STANDING RULE.

W. LLOYD GARRISON reported from the Business Committee the following resolutions:—

Whereas, the most untiring efforts have been made by that mercenary and depraved sheet, the London *Times*, and by leading journals throughout the kingdom, to commit the public sentiment of England to the side of the traitorous Confederate States, and, for a time, with such apparent success as to make it seem as though that sentiment was overwhelmingly pro-slavery, to the perplexity, grief and astonishment of the friends of free institutions universally; therefore,

9. Resolved, That it gives us unspeakable satisfaction to see that a powerful reaction is taking place across the Atlantic, in steady advance of your policy along the path of emancipation, and on the side of the day which your proclamation of freedom is most effective, we pray God to strengthen your hands to confirm your lawful purpose, and to hasten the overthrow of that lawless authority which engages in peace or war, by compensation or by force of arms, to realize the glorious principle on which your Constitution is founded—the brotherhood, freedom, and equality of all men."

In the new order of things, I will not suggest an emendation, even in regard to the word "Constitution" in that Address; for I hold that, in consequence of the rebellion, slavery being in arms to destroy the Government and overturn all that is dear to us as freemen, it has made itself an outlaw, and has no constitutional right left, except to be capitally executed without delay. (Applause.) So that, whereas I was once a Disunionist, on moral grounds, I am now a very tenacious Unionist. (Loud cheers.) I am not willing, however, that the South shall go; for I think God has delivered her into our hands (loud applause)—not to do her any evil, but to save her from her deadliest curse and her colossal crime; and it will be to the everlasting condemnation of the Government, if it allows this subtle opportunity to pass without breaking every yoke, and letting the oppressed go free throughout the land. (Applause.) I have no idea, therefore, of advocating a recognition of the independence of the Southern Confederacy; on the contrary—

"Liberty and Union—one and inseparable—now and for ever!"

Let me say, Mr. President, that I think we, as Abolitionists, have a right to be jubilant i. s. p. on this occasion. I do not understand how it is possible for any man, white or colored, being conversant with the history of our great struggle, to come here and talk about the indestructible efforts of such men as

GEORGE THOMPSON, JOHN BRIGHT, PROF. CAIRNS, MR. NEWMAN, JOHN STUART MILL, WILLIAM E. FOSTER and REV. NEWMAN HALL, and of such journals as the London *Daily News*, *Star*, *Advertiser*, and *Anti-Slavery Advocate*, to enlighten the people of England respecting the real nature and tendency of the conflict now going on in America, and to keep them true to the principles of civil and religious liberty, unswayed by the wiles of secession, and unbribed by the temptations of commercial and manufacturing capacity.

10. Resolved, That the cause of freedom, not only in this country but throughout the world, is signalized by the efforts of the anti-slavery people of the world, and is now the cause of the South; for I think we, as freemen, have a right to be jubilant i. s. p. on this occasion. I do not understand how it is possible for any man, white or colored, being conversant with the history of our great struggle, to come here and talk about the indestructible efforts of such men as

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Poetry.

For the Liberator.

THE LANCASHIRE OPERATIVE.

Wife and children, I've heard of such good news!
It will fill all our sad hearts with glee;
There are brave ships, well filled with provisions,
Coming to us across the wide sea.

And they come from America's merchants,
From her farmers, away in the West;
They had heard we were workless and foolish—
'Twas not idleness made us distract.

They had heard how our landlords and merchants,
And our ladies, the rich, and the great,
Our masters, our children, our poor men,
Knowing if we've no work, we can't eat;

All joined in contriving to lighten
The sufferings we people bear;
So our cousins, across the wide ocean,
Thought they, too, in the good work would share.

And they said what they knew would please England,
How much they respect our good Queen,
She who reigns in the hearts of her people—
Such another has earth never seen.

So when work comes again to our engines,
And our labor supplies all our needs,
While we thank God for the help that he sent us,
Through our country, its kind words and deeds—

While we thank English brothers and sisters,
Who helped us when starving and poor,
We will thank our American cousins—
They too, helped keep the wolf from our door.

Hastings, Sussex, England.
JANE ASHBY.

For the Liberator.

No!

PAROLED FROM HOOD.

No brands—no whips—

No more slave ships—

No carts—no horses—

No king with crown'd—

No babies by the pound—

No bogans, sham secess—

No count-house hung with chains—

No Yankees slave pens with their bloody stains—

No railroads under ground—

No plow sermons with uncertain sound—

No moffing speech—

No flogging schoolma's who go South to teach—

No "nigger with o'g's," no bleaching

of human cattle by their loads—

No preaching seoch for sound Yankee teaching—

No "South-side Vies"—

No church with hidden negro pews—

No North, no South, no Border State neutrality,

But LIBERTY, EQUALITY—

No stocks, no contrabands, no F. F. V's—

No bloody wars to show our bravery—

No banner but the stars upon the breeze—

No foes, no fears, no shrieks, no tears—

No Slavery!

From the New York Tribune.

TREASON'S LAST DEVICE.

"Who deserves greatness,
Deserves your hate."You common cry of curs, whose breath I loathe,
At rock o' the rotten fern." [Coriolanus.]

"Hark! hark! the dogs do bark." [Nursery Rhyme.]

Sons of New England, in the fray,
Do you hear the clanger behind your back?Do you hear the yelping of Blaize, and Tray,
Sweetheart, and all the mongrel pack?

Girded well with her ocean erags,

Little our mother breeds their noise;

Her eyes are fixed on Yankee flags:

But you—do you hear it, Yankee boys?

Do you hear them say that the patriots fire?

Burns on her sitars too pure and bright,

To the darken'd heavens leaping higher,

Though drench'd with the blood of every fight;

That in the light of its searching flame

Treason and tyrants stand reveal'd,

And the yidling craven is put to shame,

On Capitol floor or foughten field?

Do you hear the hissing voice, which saith

That she—wore hours through all the land

The lyre of Freedom, the torch of Faith,

And young Invention's mystic wand—

Should gather her skirts and dwell apart,

With not one of her sisters to share her fate:

A Hagar, wandering sick at heart;

A Pariah, bearing the Nation's hate?

Sons who have peopled the gorgeous West,

And planted the Pilgrim vine anew,

Where, by a richer soil carest,

It grows as ever its parent grew,

Say, do you hear—while the very bells

Of thy church ring with her ancient voice,

And the song of your children sweetly tells

How true was the land of your fathers' choice?

Do you hear the traitors who bid you speak

The word that shall never the sacred tie?

And ye, who dwell by the golden Peak,

Has the subtle whisper glided by?

It has crost the immemorial plains,

To const, where the gray Pacific roars,

And the Pilgrim blood in people's veins?

Is pure as the wealth of their mountain ores?

Spirits of sons who, side by side,

In a hundred battles fought and fell;

When now no East and West divide,

In the isles where the shades of heroes dwell;

Say, has it reach'd your glorious rest,

And ruff'd the calm which crowns you there—

The shame, that recreants have confess'd,

The plot, that foats in the troubled air?

Sons of New England, here and there;

Wherever men are still holding by

The honor our fathers left so fair!

Say, do you hear the coward's cry?

Crouching amongst her grand old crags,

Lightly your mother heeds their noise,

With her four eyes fixed on distant flag;

But ye—do you hear it, Yankee boys?

Washington, Jan. 18, 1863. EDWARD C. STEDMAN.

From the Boston Transcript.

ABOU BEN. BUTLER.

Abou Ben Butler (my tribe increase?)

Awoke one night down by the old Balaie,

And saw, outside the comfort of his room,

Making it warmer for the gathering gloom,

A black man shivering in the winter's cold—

Exceeding courage made Ben. Butler bold,

And to the presence in the dark he said—

"What wantest thou?"—The figure raised its head,

And with a look made of all and accord,

Answered—"The men who'll never purpose the purpose of the Lord."

"And am I one?" said Butler. "Nay, not so,"

Replied the black man. Butler spoke more low,

But cheerily still; and said, "As I am Ben.

You'll not have cause to tell me that again!"

The figure bowed, and vanished. The next night

It came once more, environed strong in light,

And showed the names whom love of Freedom blessed,

And, to Ben. Butler's bane led all the rest!

TO PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

Lincoln, that with thy steadfast truth the sand

Of sea and time and circumstance doth sway!

The slave cloud dwindleth on thy golden day,

And over all the patient Southern land,

Bresthales, the dark expectant millions stand,

To watch the northern sun rise on its way,

Cleaving the stormy distance—every ray

Sword-bright, sword-sharp, in God's invisible hand—

Better, with this great end, partial defeat,

And jibings of the ignorant worldly wise,

Than laud and lust will wane with shameful blows.

The dead Past lies in its dead winding sheet;

The living Present droops with tearful eyes;

But far beyond th' awaiting Future glows.

London, Jan. 1, 1863. EDMUND OLIVER.

The Liberator.

THE BOSTON REVIEW ON SAWYER'S RECONSTRUCTION OF BIBLICAL THEORIES.

REMARKS BY THE AUTHOR.—No. III.

MR. EDITOR:—Having shown, in the two previous articles, that several of the principal positions assumed by the Boston Review against the reconstruction of Biblical theories are not well sustained, I beg leave to reinforce the main position assailed by the Review, the post Mosaic authorship of the early Hebrew books. Its language on this subject is as follows:—

"In preparing the way for the reconstruction of Biblical theories, it is a prominent labor with Mr. Sawyer to show that the use of letters was unknown among the Hebrews till the times of Samuel and David. Then, of course, Moses did not write the Pentateuch, and, of course, he who did write it used traditions, myths, and any other driftwood on the stream of life. They were treated in earlier portions of the Bible, including the Pentateuch and some other books, as we do the earliest records of Greece and Rome, or any other nation." p. 636.

The questions between us are questions of facts. Knowledge is not a matter of opinion; it does not rest on probabilities, nor consist of guesses and conjectures; it is a matter of certainty, and rests on evidence; it consists of judgments which are irresistible, and capable of being verified by all human minds that give the evidence their attention. Arithmetic is not the science of numbers for minds peculiarly constituted, it is the science of numbers for all minds; not only can all minds grasp it, none can resist it. Knowledge may be obtained with infinite labor and difficulty, but there are steps by which it can be reached, with entire certainty, and when reached, mistake in regard to it is impossible. Opinions may be erroneous, knowledge cannot be. Such judgments constitute the sciences and arts, and their certain character is the basis of the general agreement of mankind in regard to them. They defy infidelity and skepticism, and expel them from large fields of ideas. Infidelity and skepticism hold only those fields in which knowledge is impossible; as fast as knowledge extends, infidelity and skepticism retire. Knowledge is individual and personal; it is never communicated, it is essentially incomunicable, an inalienable possession. All that the possessor can do for others is to put them on the track where his knowledge is to be found. By the same means by which he reached it, they can reach it; the same evidence that shows it to him, will show it to them. The reconstructionist proposes the post Mosaic authorship of the early Hebrew sacred books as a matter of knowledge, and not merely of opinion.

Three suppositions on the subject are possible, and one of them must be true: 1. Moses can be known to have been the author of the early Hebrew sacred books; or, 2, it can be known that he was not the author of them; or, 3, it can not be known whether he was the author of them or not. The Review assumes that it can be known that Moses was the author of them, the reconstructionist that he was not. The fallacies of the showing of the Review have fully appeared, in the two previous numbers of these remarks.

The truth is only made apparent when it is shown by evidence that can not be resisted, and that makes doubt and disbelief impossible. Any thing short of this gives us guesses and conjectures, but leaves us without knowledge, and makes knowledge impossible.

Let us resume the argument for the post Mosaic origin of the early Hebrew sacred books, and see if it cannot be made certainly and universally convincing.

Three scholars sufficiently attended to the nature of living languages, never could have imposed upon them the author of Jewish dogmatism and tradition on this subject.

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